Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test



M-623 (rev. 12/09)

Instructions for cutting and folding cards



Cut the cards on the dashed line.

Print the cards on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Cut and fold to make flash cards. Fasten the two sides together with tape, glue or staples.

Use as a study tool. Pick up a card and read the question. When you are ready to answer, turn the card over and see if your answer is correct.



Fold the cards on the dotted line.

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USCIS Civics Flash Cards

These Civics Flash Cards will help immigrants learn about U.S. history and government while preparing for the new naturalization test. These flash cards can also be used in the classroom as an instructional tool for citizenship preparation.



USCIS Civics Flash Cards

The 100 civics (history and government) questions and answers for the naturalization test are included in these flash cards. The civics test is an oral test and the USCIS Officer will ask the applicant up to 10 of the 100 civics questions. An applicant must answer 6 out of 10 questions correctly to pass the civics portion of the naturalization test.

Although USCIS is aware that there may be additional correct answers to the 100 civics questions, applicants are encouraged to respond to the civics questions using the answers provided on these flash cards.

If you are 65 years old or older and have been a legal permanent resident of the United States for 20 or more years, you may study just the questions that have been marked with an asterisk (*).



What is the supreme law of the land?





the Constitution

The Constitution of the United States. Courtesy of the National Archives.

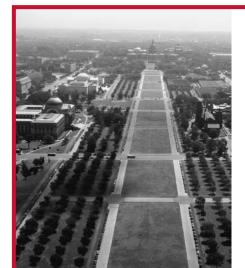




for the Naturalization Test

What does the Constitution do?





- \star sets up the government
- **★** defines the government
- ★ protects basic rights of Americans

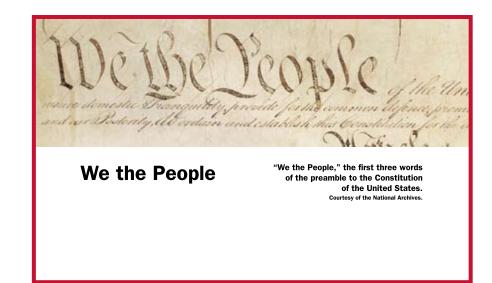
The National Mall in Washington, D.C., seen from the observation area of the Washington Monument, circa 1945. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USW31-058713-C.



The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these



words?







for the Naturalization Test

What is an amendment?



AMENDMENT 20 rified January 23, 1933) ction 1. The terms of the President ar * a change (to the hall end at noon on the 20th day of **Constitution**) erms of Senators and Representatives day of January, of years in which such * an addition (to ended if this article had not been rat the Constitution) of their successors shall then begin. Section 2. The Congress shall ass every year, and such meeting shal The 20th Amendment to the Constitution.



What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?



the Bill of Rights







for the Naturalization Test

What is <u>one</u> right or freedom from the First Amendment?*





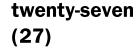
- **★** speech
- **★** religion
- **★** assembly
- **★ press**
- **★ petition the** government

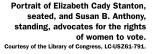
A newspaper stand in 1941.
Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USF346-BN-001359-Q-C.



How many amendments does the Constitution have?













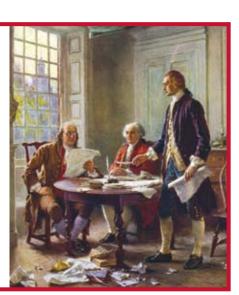
for the Naturalization Test

What did the Declaration of Independence do?



- ★ announced our independence (from Great Britain)
- ★ declared our independence (from Great Britain)
- ★ said that the United States is free (from Great Britain)

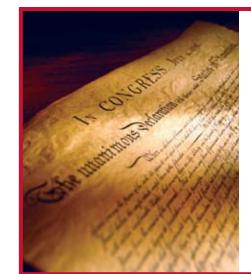
Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson in "Writing the Declaration of Independence, 1776," by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-9904.





What are <u>two</u> rights in the **Declaration of Independence?**





- **★ life**
- * liberty
- ★ pursuit of happiness





for the Naturalization Test

What is freedom of religion?



You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.

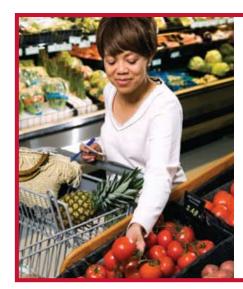
A synagogue on Yom Kippur, circa 1900. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ggbain-02316.





What is the economic system in the United States?*





- ★ capitalist economy
- **★ market economy**





Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test

What is the "rule of law"?





- ★ Everyone must follow the law.
- ★ Leaders must obey the law.
- ★ Government must obey the law.
- **★** No one is above the law.

The Contemplation of Justice statue outside the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C. Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.



Name <u>one</u> branch or part of the government.*





- **★ legislative**
- * President
- **★** executive
- * the courts
- **★ judicial**

The U.S. Capitol (legislative branch) and the U.S. Supreme Court (judicial branch) buildings in Washington, D.C.



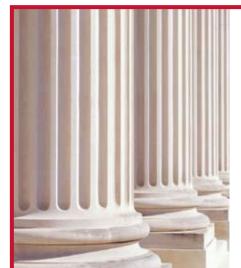




for the Naturalization Test

What stops <u>one</u> branch of government from becoming too powerful?





- ★ checks and balances
- **★** separation of powers



Who is in charge of the executive branch?





the President

The White House in Washington, D.C.





Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test

Who makes federal laws?





- **★ Congress**
- ★ Senate and House (of Representatives)
- ★ (U.S. or national)legislature

The U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.



What are the <u>two</u> parts of the U.S. Congress?*



the Senate and House (of Representatives)



Aerial view of the west front of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol.





for the Naturalization Test

How many U.S. Senators are there?





one hundred (100)

The Senators of the 109th Congress.

Courtesy of the U.S. Senate Photo Studio.



We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?









for the Naturalization Test

Who is <u>one</u> of your state's U.S. Senators now?*





Answers will vary.

[District of Columbia residents and residents of U.S. territories should answer that D.C. (or the territory where the applicant lives) has no U.S. Senators.]

Hiram Revels of Mississippi became the first African American Senator in 1870.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-cwpbh-00554.



The House of Representatives has how many voting members?





four hundred thirty-five (435)

President George W. Bush delivering the State of the Union Address before a joint session of Congress, January 23, 2007. Courtesy of the U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Photography.

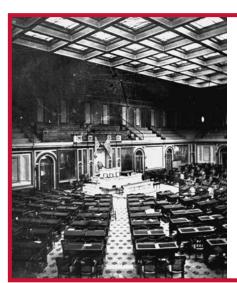




for the Naturalization Test

We elect a U.S.
Representative for how many years?





two (2)

Interior view of the Chamber of the U.S. House of Representatives, circa 1861. Courtesy of the U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Photography.



Name your U.S. Representative.





Answers will vary.

[Residents of territories with nonvoting Delegates or Resident Commissioners may provide the name of that Delegate or Commissioner. Also acceptable is any statement that the territory has no (voting) Representatives in Congress.]

Jeannette Rankin, the first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-66358.





for the Naturalization Test

Who does a U.S. Senator represent?

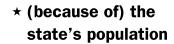






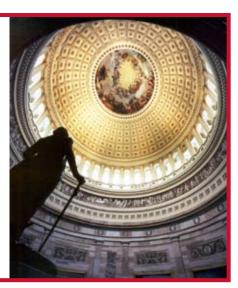
Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?





- ★ (because) they have more people
- ★ (because) some states have more people

The Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol.
Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol.



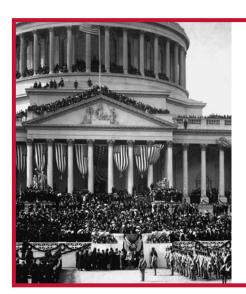




for the Naturalization Test

We elect a President for how many years?





four (4)

The inauguration of President Theodore Roosevelt on March 4, 1905. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-231.



In what month do we vote for **President?***





November





What is the name of the **President of the United States now?***







- * Barack Obama
- **★ Obama**



What is the name of the Vice President of the United States now?





- **★ Joseph R. Biden, Jr.**
- * Joe Biden
- * Biden





for the Naturalization Test

If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?



the Vice President

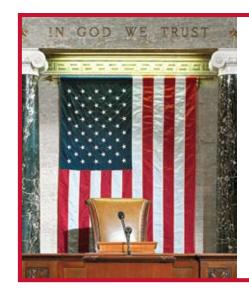
Swearing in of Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson as President aboard Air Force One following the death of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963. Courtesy of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, photo by Cecil Stoughton.





If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?





the Speaker of the House

The Rostrum, a place for public speaking, is the location from which the Speaker of the House presides. Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol.





Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test

Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?



the President

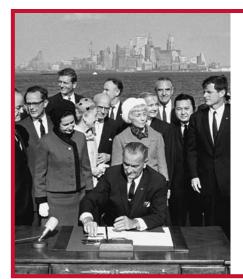
President Franklin D. Roosevelt reviewing American troops in Casablanca, Morocco during World War II. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USW33-027834-ZC.





Who signs bills to become laws?





the President

President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the Immigration Act of 1965 on October 3rd of that same year, Liberty Island, NY. Courtesy of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum.

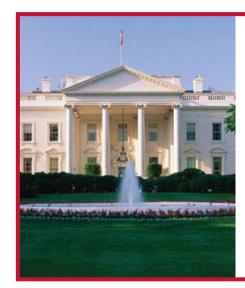




for the Naturalization Test

Who vetoes bills?





the President

The White House in Washington, D.C.



What does the President's Cabinet do?





advises the **President**

President Ronald Reagan leads a Cabinet meeting at the White House in September 1986. Courtesy of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, C36864-19.





Civics Flash Cards

for the Naturalization Test

What are two Cabinet-level positions?



- **★** Secretary of Agriculture
- **★** Secretary of Commerce
- **★** Secretary of Defense
- **★** Secretary of Education
- **★** Secretary of Energy
- **★** Secretary of Health and **Human Services**
- **★** Secretary of Homeland Security
- **★** Secretary of Housing and **Urban Development**

- **★** Secretary of the Interior
- **★** Secretary of Labor
- **★** Secretary of State
- **★ Secretary of Transportation**
- **★** Secretary of the Treasury
- **★ Secretary of Veterans** Affairs
- **★ Attorney General**
- **★ Vice President**



What does the judicial branch do?





- ★ reviews laws
- **★** explains laws
- ★ resolves disputes (disagreements)
- ★ decides if a law goes against the Constitution

The Courtroom of the U.S. Supreme Court building, where the Court has sat since 1935.

Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.





for the Naturalization Test

What is the highest court in the United States?





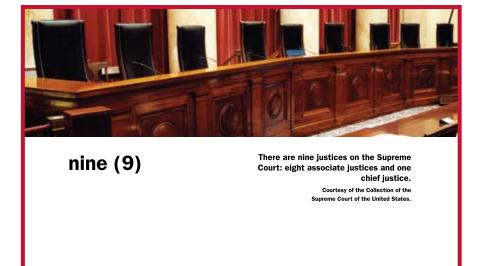
the Supreme Court

West facade of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C. Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.



How many justices are on the Supreme Court?









for the Naturalization Test

Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?



John Roberts (John G. Roberts, Jr.)







Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?



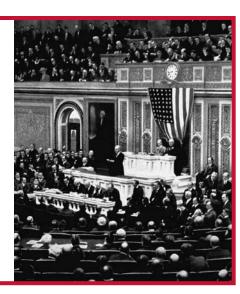




- **★ to declare war**
- ★ to create an army
- **★ to make treaties**

President Woodrow Wilson asking Congress to declare war on Germany, April 2, 1917.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-10297.







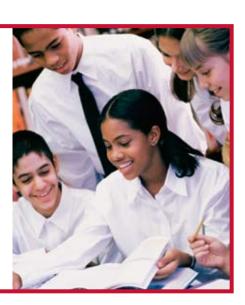
for the Naturalization Test

Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?





- **★** provide schooling and education
- **★** provide protection (police)
- **★** provide safety (fire departments)
- ★ give a driver's license
- **★** approve zoning and land use





Who is the Governor of your state now?



Answers will vary.

[District of Columbia residents should answer that D.C. does not have a Governor.]





for the Naturalization Test

What is the capital of your state?*



Answers will vary.

[District of Columbia residents should answer that D.C. is not a state and does not have a capital. Residents of U.S. territories should name the capital of the territory.]



What are the <u>two</u> major political parties in the United States?*





Democratic and Republican

Democratic (donkey) and Republican (elephant) Party icons from a 1962 political cartoon urging citizens to vote. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-116449.





for the Naturalization Test

What is the political party of the President now?





Attendees at the 1916 Democratic National Convention in St. Louis, MO.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ggbain-22021.





What is the name of the **Speaker of the House of Representatives now?**





(Nancy) Pelosi

Nancy Pelosi, the first woman to serve as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. Courtesy of the U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Photography.





for the Naturalization Test

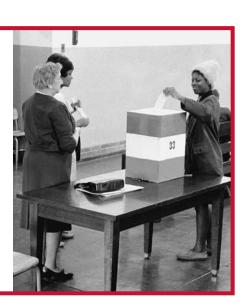
There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe one of them.





- ★ Citizens eighteen (18) and older (can vote).
- **★** You don't have to pay (a poll tax) to vote.
- **★** Any citizen can vote. (Women and men can vote.)
- **★** A male citizen of any race (can vote).

A young woman casting her ballot in the 1964 presidential election. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ppmsca-04300.





What is <u>one</u> responsibility that is only for United States citizens?*





- ★ serve on a jury
- **★** vote in a federal election

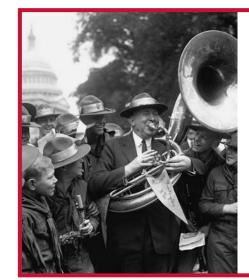




for the Naturalization Test

Name <u>one</u> right only for United States citizens.





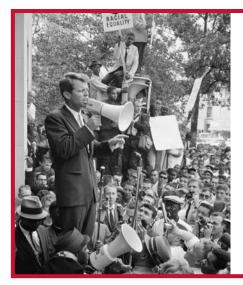
- ★ vote in a federal election
- * run for federal office

Congressman George W. Johnson of West Virginia with a Boy Scout band from his state, June 4, 1924. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-29200.



What are <u>two</u> rights of everyone living in the United States?





- **★** freedom of expression
- ★ freedom of speech
- **★** freedom of assembly
- ★ freedom to petition the government
- **★** freedom of worship
- **★** the right to bear arms

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy speaking at a racial equality demonstration outside the Justice Department on June 14, 1963.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ppmsca-04295.



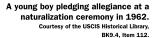


for the Naturalization Test

What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance?



- **★ the United States**
- ★ the flag







What is <u>one</u> promise you make when you become a United States citizen?





- ★ give up loyalty to other countries
- ★ defend the Constitution and laws of the United States
- ★ obey the laws of the United States
- ★ serve in the U.S. military (if needed)
- ★ serve (do important work for) the nation (if needed)
- \star be loyal to the United States





Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test

How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?*









What are <u>two</u> ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?



- **★** vote
- **★** join a political party
- ★ help with a campaign
- ★ join a civic group
- ★ join a community group
- ★ give an elected official your opinion on an issue
- **★** call Senators and Representatives
- ★ publicly support or oppose an issue or policy
- ★ run for office
- ★ write to a newspaper

3



for the Naturalization Test

When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?*

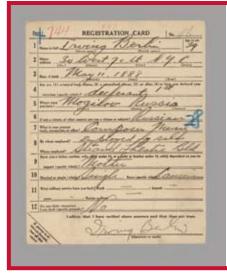






When must all men register for the Selective Service?





- * at age eighteen (18)
- ★ between eighteen(18) and twenty-six(26)

World War I draft registration card of Irving Berlin, an American composer who became a naturalized citizen in 1918. Courtesy of the National Archives.





What is <u>one</u> reason colonists came to America?





- **★** political liberty
- ★ religious freedom
- **★** economic opportunity
- **★** practice their religion
- **★** escape persecution

"Mayflower Approaching Land," an engraving of the ship that carried the Pilgrims to Plymouth, MA in 1620. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-3046.



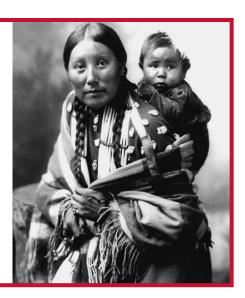


Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?









American Indian woman and her baby in 1899. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-94927.



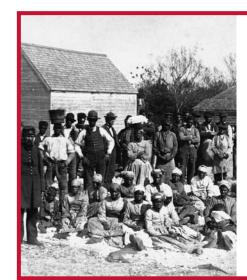


for the Naturalization Test

What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?







- * Africans
- **★ people from Africa**

Slaves on a Southern plantation in May 1862. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ppmsca-04324.



Why did the colonists fight the British?







- ★ because of high taxes (taxation without representation)
- **★** because the British army stayed in their houses (boarding, quartering)
- **★** because they didn't have self-government

Molly Pitcher firing a cannon at the Battle of Monmouth in 1778 during the American Revolutionary War by Percy Moran. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-4969.





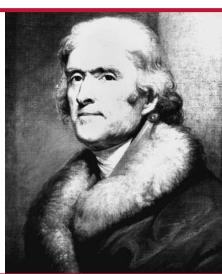
for the Naturalization Test

Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?



(Thomas) **Jefferson**







When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?





July 4, 1776

In "Declaration of Independence," a painting by John Trumbull, Thomas Jefferson and his committee present the formal statement of independence from Great Britain. Courtesy of the National Archives, NARA File # 148-6W-662.





There were 13 original states. Name three.





- **★ New Hampshire**
- **★** Massachusetts
- ★ Rhode Island
- **★** Connecticut
- **★** New York
- **★** New Jersey
- **★** Pennsylvania
- **★** Delaware
- **★** Maryland
- **★** Virginia
- **★ North Carolina**
- **★** South Carolina
- **★** Georgia



What happened at the Constitutional Convention?





★ The Constitution was written.

★ The Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution.

"Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States," by Howard Chandler Christy. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USA7-34630.

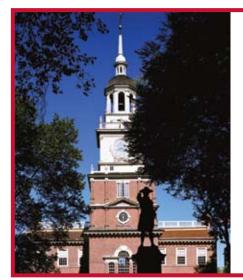




for the Naturalization Test

When was the Constitution written?





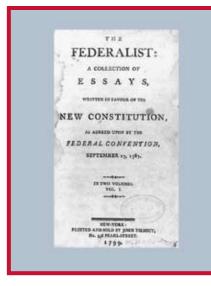
1787

Independence Hall in Philadelphia, PA, where the Constitution was signed in 1787.



The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers.





- **★ (James) Madison**
- ★ (Alexander)
 Hamilton
- ⋆ (John) Jay
- * Publius

Title page of The Federalist, vol. 1, 1799. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-70508.





for the Naturalization Test

What is <u>one</u> thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?





- ★ U.S. diplomat
- ★ oldest member of the Constitutional Convention
- ★ first Postmaster General of the United States
- ★ writer of "Poor Richard's Almanac"
- * started the first free libraries

"Franklin's Return to Philadelphia, 1785,"
by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris.
Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-9906.



Who is the "Father of Our Country"?



(George) Washington









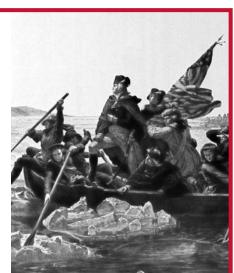
for the Naturalization Test

Who was the first President?*



(George) Washington

"Washington Crossing the Delaware," by Emanuel Leutze. Courtesy of the National Archives, NARA File # 066-G-15D-25.





What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?





* Louisiana



Map of the Louisiana Purchase Territory. Courtesy of the National Archives.

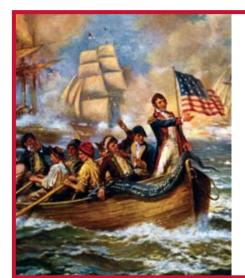




for the Naturalization Test

Name <u>one</u> war fought by the United States in the 1800s.





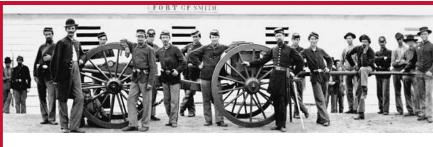
- **★ War of 1812**
- ★ Mexican-AmericanWar
- **★ Civil War**
- ★ Spanish-American War

"Battle of Lake Erie," by Percy Moran, depicts a battle from the War of 1812. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-6893.



Name the U.S. war between the North and the South.





- * the Civil War
- **★ the War between** the States

Civil War soldiers with cannon and caisson, Fort C.F. Smith, Co. L, 2d New York Artillery. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-115177.





for the Naturalization Test

Name one problem that led to the Civil War.



- **★** slavery
- **★ economic reasons**
- **★ states' rights**

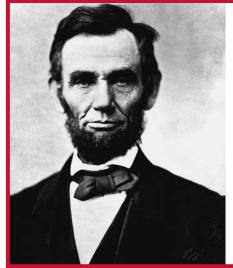






What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?*





- **★** freed the slaves (Emancipation **Proclamation**)
- **★** saved (or preserved) the Union
- * led the United States during the **Civil War**

Abraham Lincoln. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-13016.





for the Naturalization Test

What did the Emancipation **Proclamation do?**







- ★ freed the slaves
- **★** freed slaves in the Confederacy
- **★** freed slaves in the **Confederate states**
- ★ freed slaves in most **Southern states**

"The First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation Before the Cabinet," painted by Francis Bicknell Carpenter and engraved by A.H. Ritchie. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-pga-02502.



What did Susan B. Anthony do?





★ fought for civil rights



Susan B. Anthony.
Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ggbain-30125.

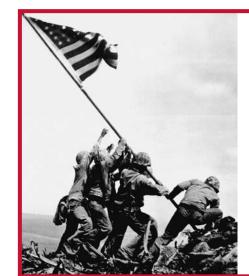




for the Naturalization Test

Name <u>one</u> war fought by the United States in the 1900s.*





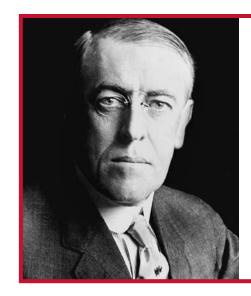
- * World War I
- * World War II
- **★ Korean War**
- **★ Vietnam War**
- **★ (Persian) Gulf War**

"Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima," photographed by Joe Rosenthal, Associated Press, 1945.
Courtesy of the National Archives, 80-G-413988.



Who was President during World War I?





(Woodrow) Wilson

President Woodrow Wilson.
Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-107577.

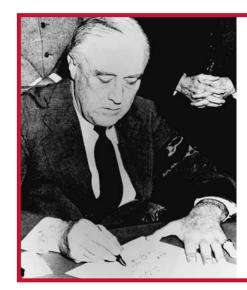




for the Naturalization Test

Who was President during the Great Depression and World War II?





(Franklin) Roosevelt

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing the Declaration of War against Japan on December 8, 1941. Courtesy of the National Archives.

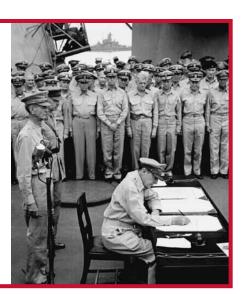


Who did the United States fight in World War II?



Japan, Germany, and Italy

Surrender of Japan, September 2, 1945.
General Douglas MacArthur signs
as Supreme Allied Commander
during formal surrender ceremonies
aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.
Courtesy of the National Archives.







Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test

Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?



World War II



General Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1945.

Courtesy of the National Archives.



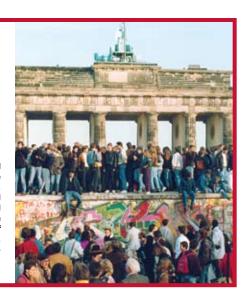
During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the **United States?**





Communism

Germans from East and West stand on the Berlin Wall in front of the Brandenburg Gate in this November 10, 1989 photo, one day after the wall opened. The Berlin Wall was a symbol of the tyranny that restrained freedom throughout the Communist bloc of Eastern Europe during the Cold War.





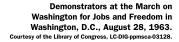


for the Naturalization Test

What movement tried to end racial discrimination?







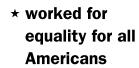


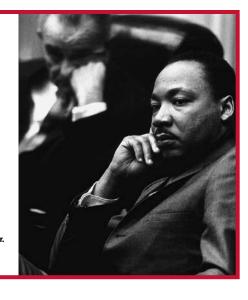


What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?*









Martin Luther King, Jr.





for the Naturalization Test

What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States?







Terrorists attacked the **United States.**

Firefighters unfurl a large American flag over the scarred stone of the Pentagon on September 12, 2001. White House photo by Paul Morse.

★ Pueblo



Name one American Indian tribe in the United States.







★ Lakota

★ Cheyenne

Four Pueblo women.

Congress, LC-USZ62-54421.

Courtesy of the Library of





for the Naturalization Test

Name <u>one</u> of the two longest rivers in the United States.

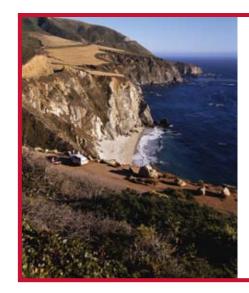


★ Missouri (River) ★ Mississippi (River) The Mississippi River near Minneapolis, MN.



What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?





Pacific (Ocean)

View of the Pacific Ocean from Big Sur, CA, near Bixby Creek Bridge.





What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?



Atlantic (Ocean)



Portland Head Light in Cape Elizabeth, ME.



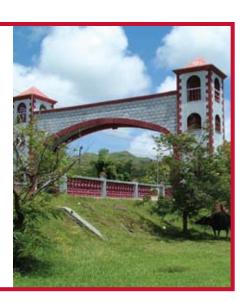
Name <u>one</u> U.S. territory.





- **★ U.S. Virgin Islands**
- * American Samoa
- ★ Northern Mariana Islands
- **★ Guam**

Old Spanish Bridge in Umatac, Guam.
Courtesy of the Office of U.S. Representative
Madeleine Z. Bordallo.



2



for the Naturalization Test

Name <u>one</u> state that borders Canada.







Name <u>one</u> state that borders Mexico.





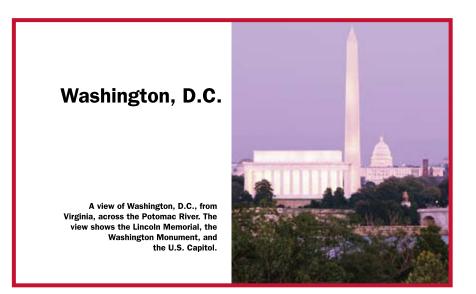




for the Naturalization Test

What is the capital of the United States?*







Where is the Statue of Liberty?*





- **★ New York (Harbor)**
- **★ Liberty Island**

[Also acceptable are New Jersey, near New York City, and on the Hudson (River).]





for the Naturalization Test

Why does the flag have 13 stripes?





- ★ because there were 13 original colonies
- ★ because the stripes represent the original colonies



Why does the flag have 50 stars?*





- ★ because there is one star for each state
- ★ because each star represents a state
- ★ because there are50 states





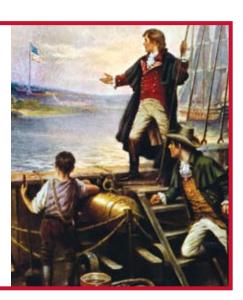
What is the name of the national anthem?



The Star-Spangled Banner

In "The Star-Spangled Banner," by Percy Moran, Francis Scott Key reaches toward the flag flying over Fort McHenry.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-6200.





When do we celebrate Independence Day?*



July 4



Patriotic celebration at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

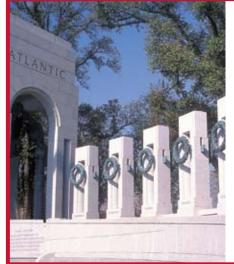




for the Naturalization Test

Name <u>two</u> national U.S. holidays.





- ★ New Year's Day
- ★ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **★** Presidents' Day
- **★** Memorial Day
- **★ Independence Day**
- **★** Labor Day
- **★ Columbus Day**
- **★ Veterans Day**
- **★** Thanksgiving
- **★** Christmas

Atlantic Pavilion at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. © Richard Latoff.

